PATENT

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| INVENTOR(S) | : | Abramo |
| TITLE | : | **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPORTING DIGITAL SWITCHING SYSTEM DATA INTO A SPREADSHEET PROGRAM** |
| APPLICATION NO. | : | 09/483,745 |
| FILED | : | January 17, 2000 |
| CONFIRMATION NO. | : | 8778 |
| EXAMINER | : | Huynh, Cong Lac T |
| ART UNIT | : | 2178 |
| LAST OFFICE ACTION | : | May 25, 2005 |
| ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | : | LUTZ 2 00156 Case Name/No. Abramo 1 |

## SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

Mail Stop - AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA  22313-1450

Dear Sir:

As the person signing below:

1.    I, Loredana Abramo, do hereby declare and say that I am the inventor in the above-identified United States patent application, Serial No. 09/483,745.

2.    I have read and I am familiar with U.S. Patent No. 6,259,907 B1 issued to Bellamy, Jr. et al. on July 10, 2001.

3.     I declare that a date prior to November 30, 1999, the filing date of U.S. Patent No. 6,259,907 B1, the invention disclosed in the above-identified U.S. patent application was conceived and reduced to practice. In this regard, we have attached hereto a redacted copy of a Patent Review - Request for Legal Opinion invention proposal (Exhibit A) that was prepared by me as evidence of said conception and reduction to practice of the invention prior to November 30, 1999. I hereby declare and say that the relevant portions of Exhibit A were prepared at least prior to November 30, 1999, the filing date of the '907 patent.

4.     In the alternative, I declare that at a date prior to November 30, 1999, the filing date of U.S. Patent No. 6,259,907 B1, the invention disclosed in the above-identified United States patent application was conceived and that there was due diligence from prior to the filing date of U.S. Patent No. 6,259,907 B1 until the filing of the present application. In this regard, we have attached hereto a redacted copy of a Patent Review – Request for Legal Opinion invention proposal (Exhibit A) that was prepared by me and a series of written communications between various parties discussing aspects and steps toward drafting the present application (Exhibits B'-D'), as evidence of said conception of the invention prior to November 30, 1999 and due diligence from prior to that date until the filing of the present application. We hereby declare and say that the relevant portions of Exhibit A were prepared at least prior to November 30, 1999, the filing date of the '907 patent.

5.     Exhibit A describes aspects of embodiments of the present invention. For example, under the subheading "How does it operate?", Exhibit A makes reference to obtaining raw data listing from a 5ESS Switch and processing the listings using a tool that imports the raw data into an Excel Workbook. This section also indicates that, from the Workbook, the data is readily available for review, verification, debugging, filtering, and further manipulation. It is respectfully submitted that the these features and additional material in Exhibit A are related to the "receiving raw switch data," "converting said raw switch data," and "outputting converted data" elements recited in independent claims 1 and 15 of the present application. Additionally, Exhibit A makes reference to a "Tool" or "Switch Data Examiner" that implements the operations referenced above. It is respectfully submitted that reference to the tool/switch data examiner in combination with the

receiving, converting, and outputting operations and additional material in Exhibit A are related to the apparatus including the "data receiver," "data converter," and "data output device" elements recited in independent claims 7 and 19. Additionally, on the second page, in the last paragraph in section 1 under the subheading USE:, Exhibit A indicates that "a preliminary version is going to be released by the end of September 1999 to the Asia Pacific CTS organizations for initial evaluation." It is respectfully submitted that the preliminary version referred to in Exhibit A represents an actual reduction to practice of the invention prior to November 30, 1999, the filing date of the '907 patent.

6.      Exhibit B' is a Lucent form documenting a decision to assign Invention Disclosure Submission (IDS) 120950 to my invention proposal. Exhibit B' is dated 11/12/99 (November 12, 1999), a date at least prior to November 30, 1999.

7.      Exhibit C' is a cover letter delivered via priority mail and authorizing preparation of a patent application based on accompanying IDS 120950 by Lucent outside patent counsel, Gregory P. Gadson, Esq. Exhibit C' is dated November 23, 1999, a date at least prior to November 30, 1999, the filing date of the '907 patent.

8.      Exhibit D' is a fax cover sheet from Gregory Gadson to Lucent's Outside Counsel Group requesting assignment of a case name/number to a new patent application based on IDS 120950 in which I am listed as the inventor. The accompanying transmission verification report confirms that the fax cover sheet was transmitted. Exhibit D' is dated 12/21/1999 (December 21, 1999).

9.      The filing date of the present application is January 17, 2000.

10.      Each of the dates redacted from Exhibit A is a date at least prior to November 30, 1999, the filing date of the '905 patent.

11.      It is submitted that attached Exhibit A demonstrates invention and reduction to practice of a method and apparatus for importing digital switching data into a spreadsheet program in the United States at a date at least prior to November 30, 1999.

12.    Alternatively, it is submitted that the attached Exhibits A and B'-D' demonstrate that the invention of a Method and Apparatus for Importing Digital Switching System Data into a Spreadsheet Program was conceived in the United States at a date at least prior to November 30, 1999 coupled with due diligence from at least prior to November 30, 1999 to the filing date of the present application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

_Loredana Abramo_                _10/24/2005_
Loredana Abramo                      Date

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**Patent Review - Request for Legal Opinion**

Submit to: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY - LAW
ATTENTION: C. L. WARREN, CORPORATE COUNSEL (IH 2A-401)

**SUBJECT:** Switch Data Examiner - Process and Tool

**OBJECTIVE:** What problem does the proposal solve or what purpose does it serve?

The Process and Tool allow to display 5ESS Switch Data through Microsoft Excel Workbooks. The use of Excel to view Office Data will maximize efficiency in accessing, reviewing, manipulating and modifying such data. The primary Users for the Switch Data Examiner are Customer Technical Support engineers, testers, and Lucent Customers' OA&M Personnel.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:**

**1. What is it?**

A Process and a Tool to import and display 5ESS Switch Data into Microsoft Excel Workbooks

**2. How does it operate?**

The Process uses existing Operation, Administration and Maintenance commands (QUDB) on the 5ESS Switch to obtain raw data listings of the Office Data. Such listings are then processed through the Tool so that they are imported in an Excel Workbook, and thus become readily available for review, verification, debugging, filtering and further manipulation.

Each set of data, which in the 5ESS Switch appears in its own Recent Change and Verify (RC/V) Page, is contained in a separate Worksheet. Data Engineers can immediately access the data, which is displayed in a familiar format. Since the RC/V page Fields are the headers of the Worksheet, no further technical training is required for interpreting the format in which the data is displayed. The content of the Workbook, that is the Office Data, can then be easily searched to retrieve information on entries that need to be investigated. Another advantage of this system is the capability to filter data that meets certain requirements. This allows writing scripts to modify such data. Furthermore, commonly known Excel Tools such as sorting, track changes, hyperlinks, charts, etc. can be used to enhance accessibility of the data and data related activities, such as data analysis, provisioning and maintenance. This process also provides a way, with periodic updates, to keep track electronically of the Office Data for a given Operational Office or Laboratory. As an additional outcome, printed records of such data can be produced. Executing periodically the commands to produce the Data Listings in the background also gives Data Engineers a list of RC/V views in *error*, for example, highlighting inconsistencies or missing data. This information can be used to identify proactively any data problem in the Operational 5ESS Switch or Laboratory. Please refer to attachment 1.

**COMPARISON:**

**1. What is the known prior art, if any?**

There are two ways to view 5ESS Switch Data. One way is to access it directly, one entry at a time, using the Recent Change and Verify (RC/V) screens on the 5ESS Switch. The other way is to dump into a text file or Read Only Printer the output from query commands executed on the same RC/V screens.

**2. What are the differences over the prior art?**

Accessing the RC/V screens directly requires prior knowledge of each screen's key field(s) value. The 5ESS Switch Database is usually quite large, and it is extremely improbable that a Data Engineer remembers all the values for the possible access keys. A CTS engineer not familiar with the details of the Customer's data provisioning, or a Tester in an unfamiliar laboratory typically does not have such knowledge readily available. The existing process (prior art) requires the execution of query commands to identify such keys. These commands can be time consuming if they are to be executed as a part of data debugging or problem

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resolution. The Switch Data Examiner provides fast, user friendly and efficient access to the Office Database, at the time this access is needed and without delay.

When the query commands are executed as part of the known process, the unprocessed output can just be searched (for example) using UNIX "grep" commands in a UNIX environment, or visually inspecting the printout. Any change tracking, data filtering or data update scripts preparation requires the use of text editors or UNIX and Shell commands. Such commands are usually not targeting a data field in a data entry, like Excel would do, but rather a string or number in a text file. As a consequence, data entries cannot be easily sorted, modified or even filtered without extensive familiarity with UNIX. The Switch Data Examiner provides a user-friendly layout, which makes use of widespread and interactive MS Excel tools.

The Switch Data Examiner Process also enforces the routine execution, in the background, of query commands in order to update the Workbooks. The execution of query commands performs a sanity check on the consistency of the database. As a result, the Switch Data Examiner process helps early identification of Office Data errors.

3. What commercial benefits are derived from these differences?

Both Internal Lucent organizations and External Customers can be potential targets for commercial applications of the Switch Data Examiner (SDE). The workbook that is the outcome of the Tool provides the basis for extensive Value Added Services. Data can be provisioned, changed and tracked using scripts that can be prepared easily by filtering, cutting and pasting entries in the SDE Workbook. Also, it is quite simple to produce printouts, so to have hardcopies of the 5ESS Switch Office Data. Using known art, any such activity would require considerable effort and time, and specific training.

**USE:**

1. What is the probability of commercial use?

- For SAS CTS: to reduce response time to Customer Assistance Requests. Lucent Technologies CTS Engineers can, with minimal training, be more efficient in analyzing, troubleshooting and resolving database problems at a Customer's Office. As a result, CTS can improve response time and Customer Satisfaction.

- For SAS NPI/CA Teams: to reduce Q Gates intervals. The NPI and CA Test Environment can be designed and kept under control more efficiently; data problems can be identified earlier than with known prior art.

- For SAS Integration and Feature Testing Teams: to reduce Testing (Q Gates) Intervals. System Integration Engineers or Feature Testers using a shared 5ESS Laboratory can become acquainted quickly with a new laboratory, debug or design more efficiently a Test Environment, thus reducing testing intervals and delivery time for new Features/Applications.

Within Lucent, The Switch Data Examiner can become part of the SAS CTS Common Tools and be distributed to CTS organizations worldwide. A preliminary version is going to be released by the end of September 1999 to the Asia Pacific CTS Organizations for initial evaluation.

2. What is the expected annual sales volume or revenue, if used?

Unknown.

3. Who outside of Lucent may use it commercially?

The Switch Data Examiner Process and Tool can be commercialized to all Lucent Customers that use a 5ESS Switch for any Application (Toll/Local, Gateway, OSPS, Wireless, IN, etc.). The product can be sold directly, so that both Process and Tool are used by the Customer's OA&M Engineers. The Switch Data Examiner can also be sold indirectly, as part of a Database Maintenance Contract or as a Value Added Service to be provided to a

Customer, in which case LT Engineers will execute the Process and Tool and provide the Customer with the resulting Workbook.

**ORGINATORS OF THE PROPOSAL:** (NAME, DEPT. # AND PHONE #)

Loredana Abramo, JR1JAJ000, +65-240-8743

**BUSINESS UNIT(S) INVOLVED:** _____ SAS _____

**Attorney Consulted:** (Name and date) _Charles Warren,._____  Ext. _x9-2004_

**Submitted by:** ___Loredana Abramo___  Ext. _+65-240-8743_____  Date: _____

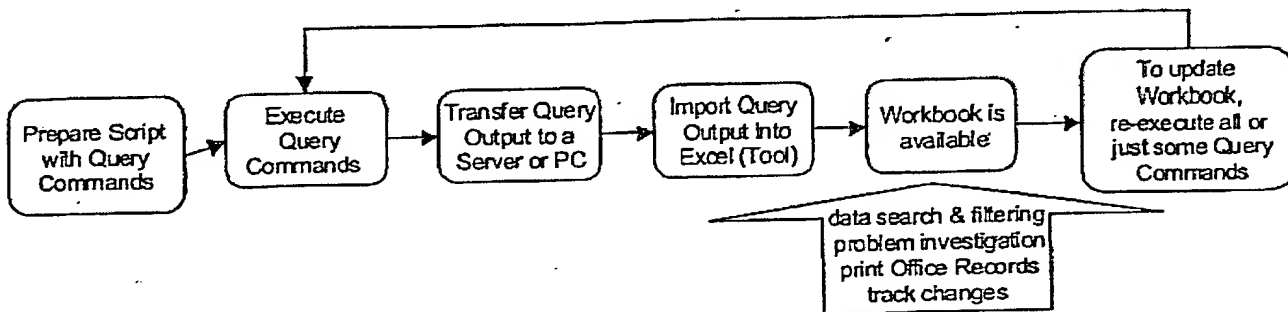**Approved By:**___Li-Feng Jesse Liu___ _ Ext. _+65 240 8529_____  Date: _____

**Attachments: Yes _1__  No _____.  Financial Project No. (WPN):** _____

This form should be completely filled in and signed by one of the inventors. The completed form should be approved by the inventor's supervisor. Two copies of the approved form and any attachments should be sent to C. L. Warren (IL0015 2A-401).
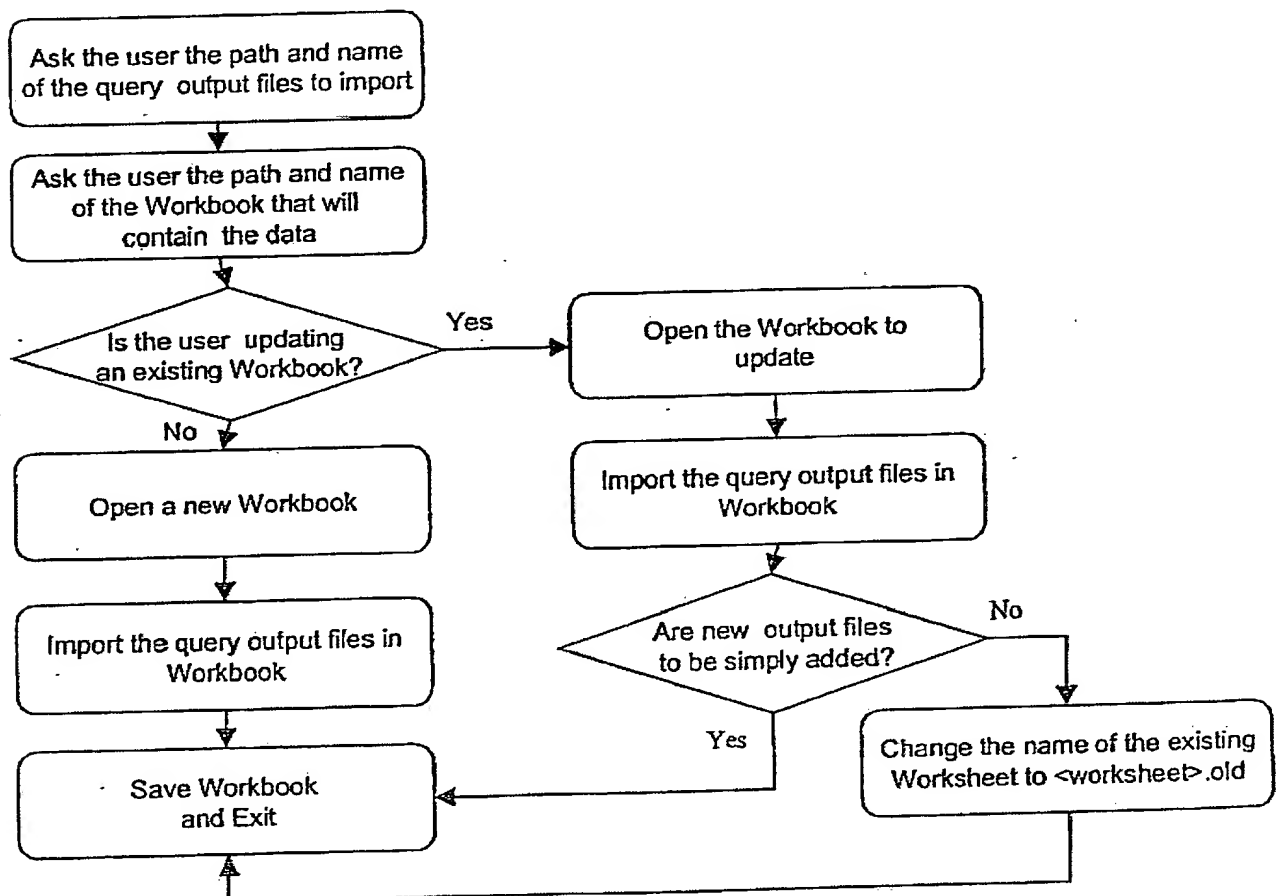
**ATTACHMENT 1**

Process Overview

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┌──────────────┐    ┌──────────┐    ┌───────────────┐    ┌──────────────┐    ┌──────────────┐    ┌──────────────┐
│ Prepare Script│───▶│ Execute  │───▶│ Transfer Query│───▶│ Import Query │───▶│ Workbook is  │───▶│ To update    │
│ with Query    │    │ Query    │    │ Output to a   │    │ Output into  │    │ available    │    │ Workbook,    │
│ Commands      │    │ Commands │    │ Server or PC  │    │ Excel (Tool) │    │              │    │ re-execute all or│
└──────────────┘    └──────────┘    └───────────────┘    └──────────────┘    └──────────────┘    │ just some Query│
                                                                                                   │ Commands     │
                                                                                                   └──────────────┘
```

data search & filtering
problem investigation
print Office Records
track changes

Tool Overview

SUBMISSION NO. : 120950
ATTORNEY : Ormos, Neil R
Title :

Switch Data Examiner - Process And Tool

------------------------MAIN INFORMATION-------------------------

ITEM STATUS : Open          LUCENT RATING : III
STATUS DATE : 11/12/99      GOVT. CONTRACT : N
OPEN DATE :                 TYPE : Patentability
CLOSE DATE :                DEADLINE DATE :
CLASS CODE : III            TECHNOLOGY : PSTN/Switching
BU CODES(S) :

------------------------SUBMITTER INFORMATION-------------------------

SUBMITTER NAME : Abramo, Loredana
COMPANY : LUCENT
LOCATION : Singapore
EXTENSION : Singapore
DEPARTMENT : 10013048
DIRECTOR : J. G. Holland

**Brief Description:**
Allow to display 5ESS(R) Switch Data through Microsoft Excel Workbooks. The
use of Excel to view Office Data will maximize efficiency in accessing,
reviewing, manipulating and modifying such data. The primary Users for the
Switch Data Examiner are Customer Technical Support engineers, testers, and
Lucent Customers'OA&M Personnel.

REDACTED

REDACTED

**Lucent Technologies**
Bell Labs Innovations

Lucent Technologies Inc.
P. O. Box 679
Holmdel, NJ 07733
U. S. A.

Facsimile 732 949 0292

Intellectual Property - Law

November 23, 1999

VIA PRIORITY MAIL

Gregory P. Gadson, Exq.
19375 Amber Way
Indianpolis, IN   46060

Re:   IDS No.:        120950        **(CLASS III)**
      **Managing Attorney**        **Telephone No.**        **Fax No.**
      Neil R. Ormos               (630) 979-2006           (630) 979-2246
      **Secretary**               **Telephone No.**
      Joan Richied                (630) 979-3331

Dear Greg:
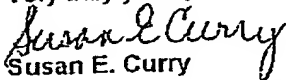
An advance copy of the above-referenced patent submission was sent to you by the Managing Attorney. Please follow the filing instructions specified by the Managing Attorney. If for any reason you cannot meet the filing date requested or need to change the filing date, you MUST notify the Managing Attorney (MA) and me, VIA FACSIMILE, as soon as possible.

After the final claims have been drafted and you are therefore in a position to identify the inventors, please send "Request for Case Name/Number" (Attachment H) VIA FACSIMILE to Norma Davis at (732) 949-0292.

Unless the MA has otherwise agreed, our instructions are that a copy of the proposed application is to be sent to the MA prior to execution of the Declaration and Assignment; likewise, all other substantive papers such as amendments, appeal briefs and the like are to be sent to the MA prior to filing. Please note, however, that the MA may not be in a position to review the application or other papers prior to filing, or may choose to conduct only a quality control review either now or at a later time. Accordingly, the ultimate responsibility for the timely filing as well as the quality and contents of the papers of this application and any resulting patent rests with you. If you do not receive specific instructions from the MA within eight  (8) business days from the date that the application or any subsequent papers were submitted to the MA, you are authorized and directed to transmit same directly to the USPTO.

If, during the prosecution of an application, you believe that a CPA/CIP, Divisional, Appeal, etc. should be filed, your advice should be presented to the MA for concurrence, prior to commencement of any work.

Very truly yours,

Susan E. Curry
Administrative Manager

Encl.  (As above)
Copy to:
N.R. Ormos
L. Abramo

Ad-III

$D'$

## ATTACHMENT H

## REQUEST FOR CASE NAME/NO.

# FAX COVER SHEET

**Date:** *12/21/1999*

**To:** Outside Counsel Group
Lucent Technologies Inc.

**Phone:** (732) 949-6068
**Fax:** (732) 949-0292

**No. of pages including cover sheet:** *1*

**OC Firm Name/Contact:** *GREGORY GADSON*

**Fax No.:** *(317) 770-7595*     **Phone No.:** *(317) 773-9083*

**Date Needed:** *12/23/1999*

**IDS No.:** *120950*

**List names of ALL Inventors:**

*LOREDANA ABRAMO*

**Application Type:** ☑ New   ☐ Provisional   ☐ CIP   ☐ Continuation   ☐ Divisional

**Special Instructions:**

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### Do Not Fill In Below

**Lucent's Case Name/No.:**

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 12/21/1999 16:36
NAME :
FAX : 3177707595
TEL : 3177739083

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|---|---|
| DATE,TIME | 12/21 16:36 |
| FAX NO./NAME | 17329490292 |
| DURATION | 00:00:25 |
| PAGE(S) | 01 |
| RESULT | OK |
| MODE | STANDARD |
| | ECM |

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 12/21/1999 16:36
FAX : 3177707595
TEL : 3177739083